

House Republican Press Release

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Representative Greene: Increased Route 8 Traffic Enforcement Continues, DOT Seeking Roadway Improvements



(Hartford, CT) State Rep. Leonard C. Greene, R-105th, today said the increased state police presence on a curving portion of Route 8 in Beacon Falls will continue and the state Department of Transportation (DOT) is planning to improve the roadway surface.

During the past several years, there have been a high number of accidents in this area. At Rep. Greene's request, in August 2004, state police agreed to immediately assign additional state troopers to monitor traffic on the section of roadway. Rep. Greene sought the additional enforcement because excessive speed was likely a factor in a number of the accidents.

The Department of Public safety recently released data on enforcement of the targeted area. Between August 6, 2004 and January 19, 2005, 1,250 infractions and 181 warnings were issued. Of the total enforcement action taken, 514 infractions and 68 warnings were issued for speeding violations.

Also, at Rep. Greene's request, the DOT sought federal funds to survey the area of roadway. In August 2004, the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) authorized the funding and the survey was recently completed. Rep. Greene said DOT officials have informed him they are currently seeking federal funds to make pavement improvements related to the survey findings. In December 2004, the DOT also relocated and increased the width of shoulder markings between exits 24 and 25 southbound to better delineate the travel area and improve the ability of vehicles traveling in the right lane to remain on the superelevated portion of pavement.

"The state is taking steps toward resolving safety issues on this section of the highway," said Rep. Greene. "The DOT is now working to secure the federal funds necessary to regrade and repave this area. I believe that by keeping a higher level of speeding enforcement, state police are also having a positive impact on safety in this location."

Representative Greene represents Ansonia, Beacon Falls and Seymour.